CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A control for a heating system, operable in an OFF mode, an ON mode and a PILOT-ON mode and including a pilot burner assembly, comprising, in combination:

a controller implementing a predetermined need-based protocol, said controller directing said OFF mode in the absence of a heating demand, said controller sequencing said heating system through said PILOT-ON mode and said ON mode in response to a heating demand;

a storage device having at least a first status parameter; and

a thermo-electric assembly in thermal communication with said pilot burner assembly; and

said controller being coupled to said pilot burner assembly, said storage device and said thermo-electric assembly;

said controller interconnecting said pilot burner assembly and said storage device to initiate said PILOT-ON mode, said storage device powering said pilot burner assembly to terminate said OFF mode, said thermo-electric assembly providing a potential to power said heating system and said controller during said PILOT-ON mode and said ON mode;

said controller storing at least a first status threshold related to said storage device and periodically receiving said ~~one~~ first status parameter, said controller maintaining said PILOT-ON mode in lieu of said OFF mode whenever said first status parameter and said first status threshold have a predetermined relationship.

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2. A control as claimed in claim 1 wherein said controller isolates said storage device during said PILOT-ON mode and said ON mode.